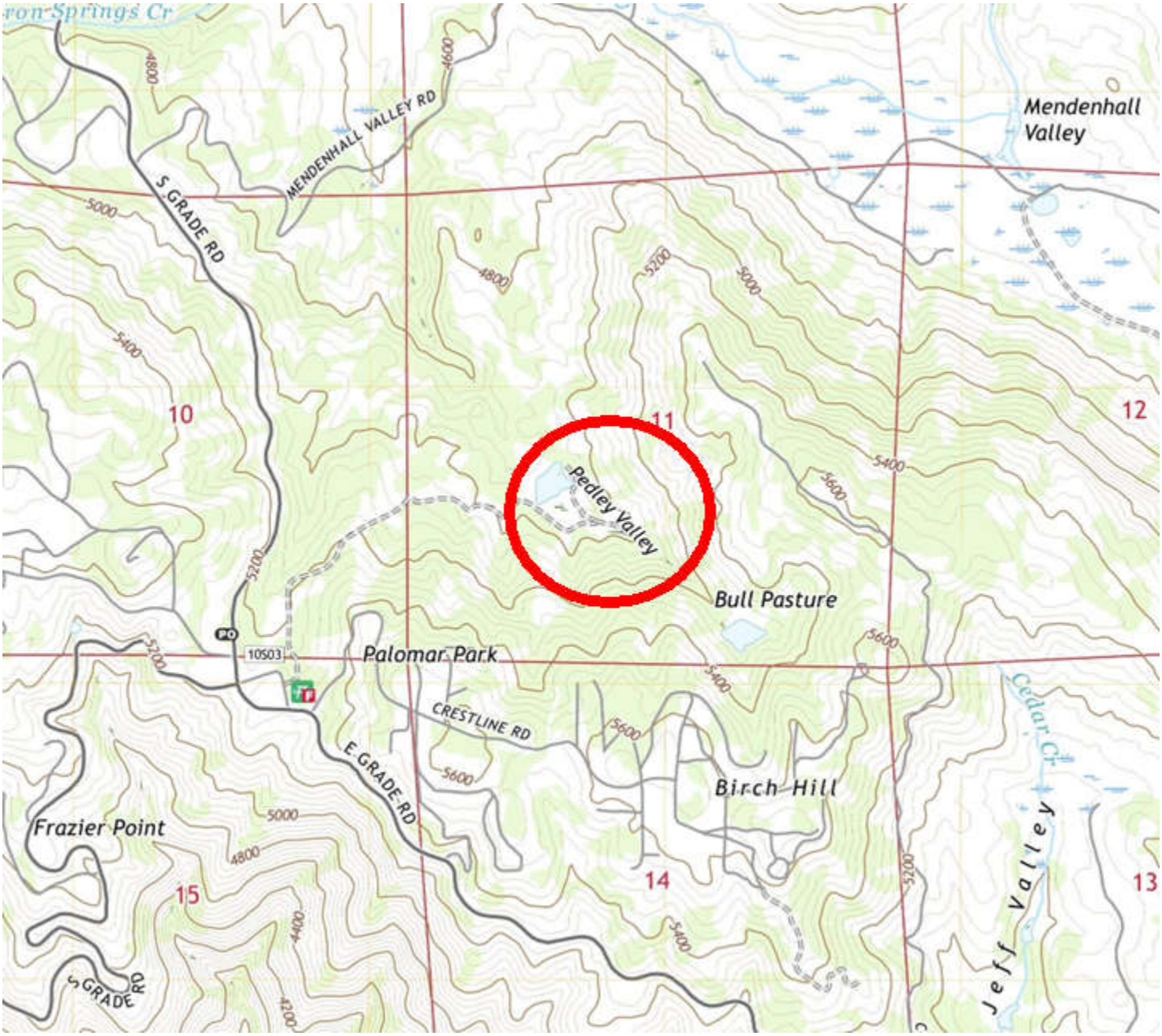
# Nathan Chaffin Pedley and Pedley Valley on Palomar Mountain

## Peter Brueggeman, 2025

Information and photograph sources in this biography are cited **except** for ancestry.com, familysearch.org, and findagrave.com; therefore, an uncited fact or photograph came from those sources. Property records were not researched; the properties noted are listed in the Bureau of Land Management's General Land Office Records database or found in newspaper notices.

Pedley Valley on Palomar Mountain is named after Nathan Chaffin Pedley (1862 – 1931). Pedley Valley is north of Birch Hill and Crestline Road on Palomar Mountain and is in the middle of this crop from the 2021 U.S.G.S. Palomar Observatory map. Palomar Mountain was also known as Smith Mountain for many years and that name appears in this history. The Palomar Mountain post office name was Nellie, after the first postmaster Nellie McQueen.



**Nathan Chaffin Pedley**, undated. He was a member for 20 years in Company D, 7th Regiment, California National Guard. (see CAL on his lapel) [1,9,50]

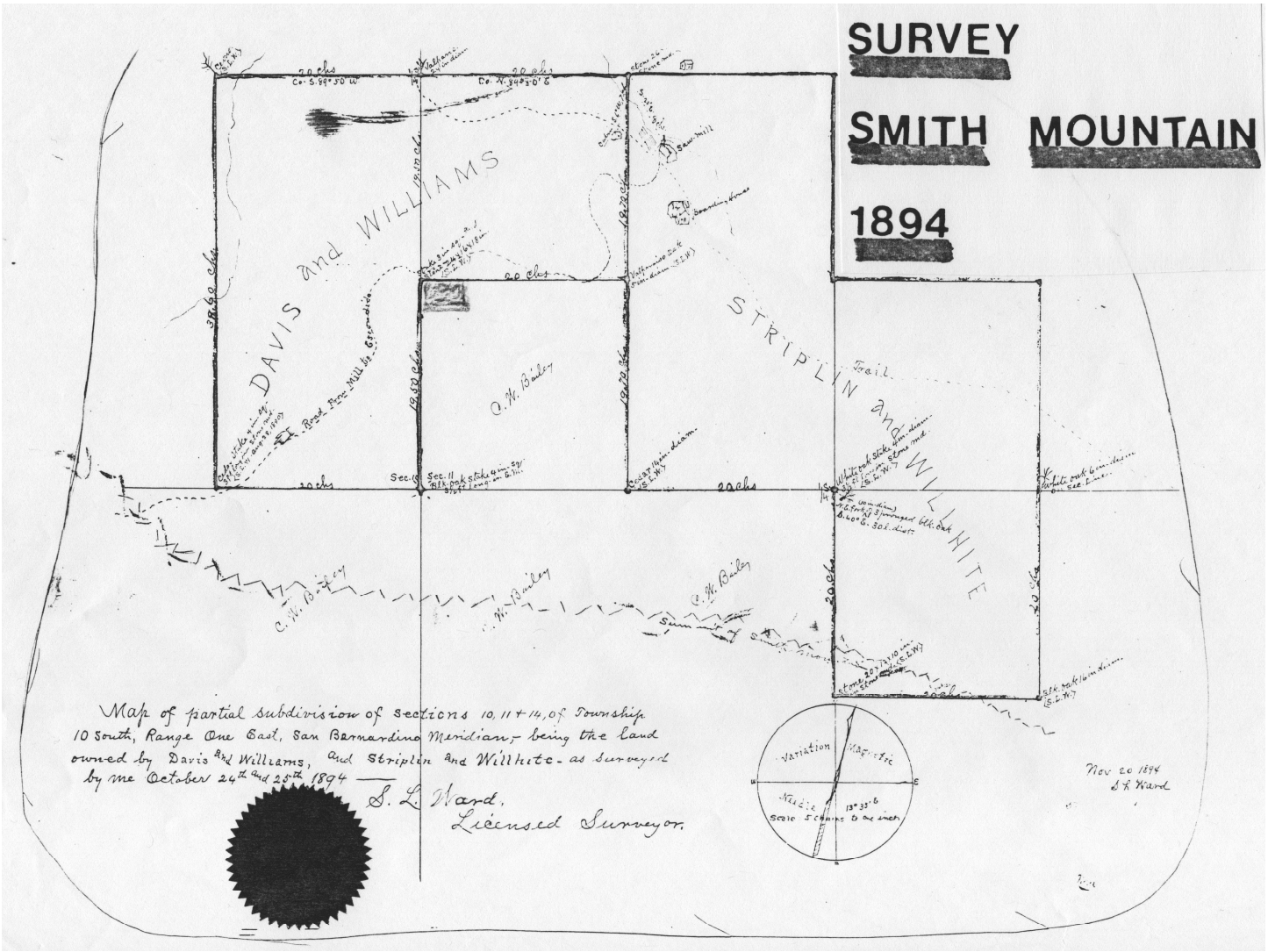
Nathan Chaffin Pedley was born in 1861, and married Caroline "Carrie" Elizabeth Dexter (1863 – 1930) in 1888; they moved to Pomona in 1890.

Their children were Florence Rebecca Jones (1889-1975), Francis "Frank" Bidwell Pedley (1890-1968), Elmer Charles Pedley (1893-1965), Mareta Mable Pedley Clark (1896-1957), Paul Ellsworth Pedley (1898-1900), Clinton Leon Pedley (1901-1985), and Dorothy Harriet Pedley Palmer (1904-1982).

Since 1892, Nathan Chaffin Pedley worked as an engineer and later a well superintendent at the Consolidated Water Company in Pomona, which supplied water to Claremont and Pomona [14]. Nathan C. Pedley discovered that running a San Antonio Canyon stream into an abandoned well northeast of Indian Hill would increase the flow from a water tunnel to Claremont built by Consolidated Water Company which supplied water to Pomona [19]. In 1897, N.C. Pedley was a substitute letter carrier and also managing Pomona's Armory Hall opera house [60]. After Consolidated Water Company was purchased by the city of Pomona in October 1926, Nathan C. Pedley was field superintendent in charge of production [15, 16,17].

In 1958, Marion Beckler wrote [7]:

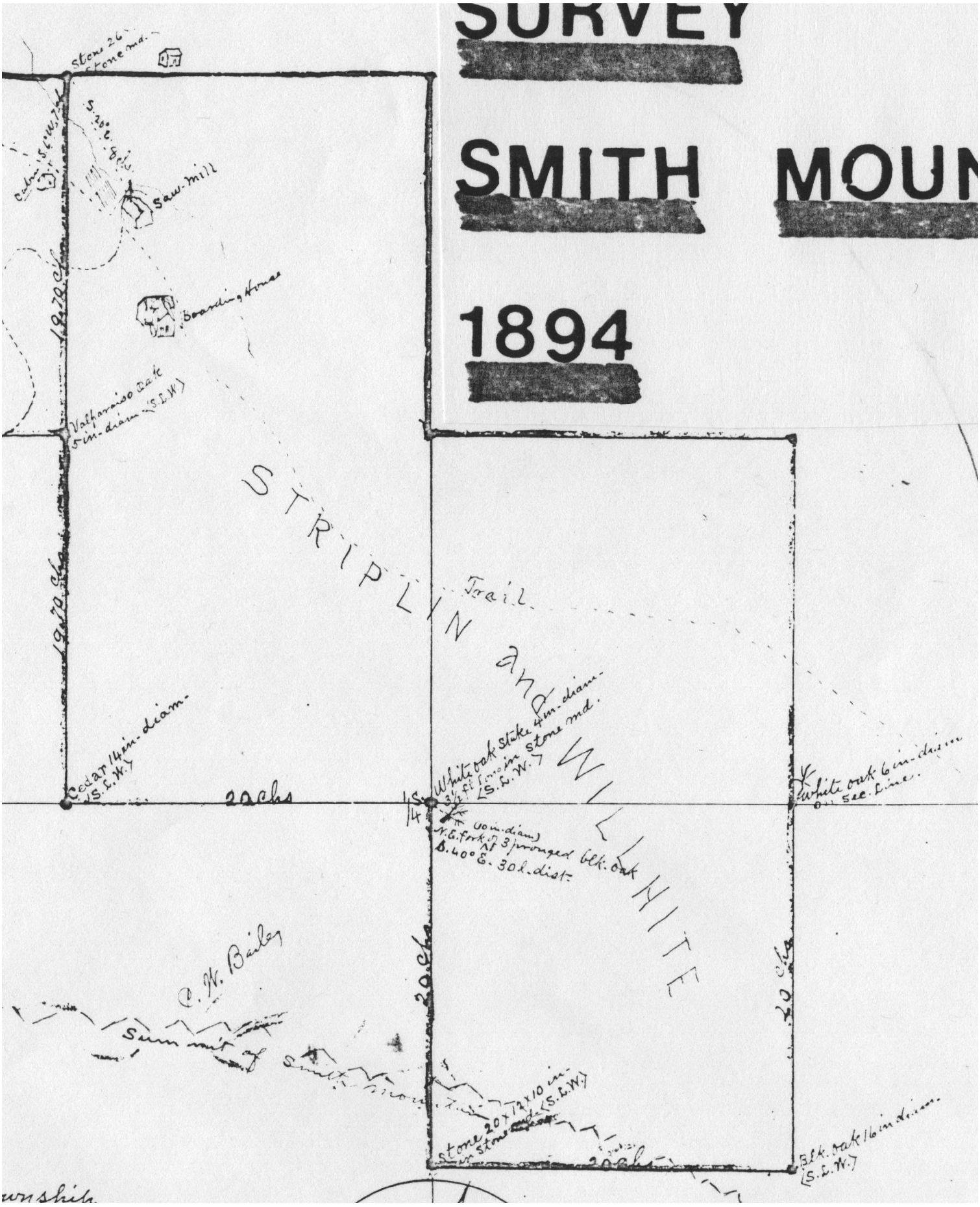
> The first settlers in Pedley Valley seem to have been among those who did not remain long on the mountain. The valley was then owned by Thomas J. "Tom" Powers and was known as "Powers Valley" when Enos T. Mendenhall's old friend, Samuel Striplin, came and bought out Powers. Sam Striplin started the sawmill, which supplied lumber for many of the mountain cabins. The … meadow at the east of the valley was known for many years as "The Old Bull Pasture," for it pastured the sawmill oxen.


SURVEY
SMITH MOUNTAIN
1894
DAVIS and WILLIAMS
STRIPLIN and WILLHITE
C.W. Bailey
Map of partial subdivision of sections 10, 11 + 14, of Township 10 South, Range One East, San Bernardino Meridian, - being the land owned by Davis and Williams, and Striplin and Willhite - as surveyed by me October 24th and 25th 1894
S. L. Ward,
Licensed Surveyor.
Variation
Nov 20 1894
S L Ward

**Map of partial subdivision of sections 10, 11 + 14, of Township 10 South, Range One East, San Bernardino Meridian, - being the land owned by Davis and Williams, and Striplin and Willhite** (sic)**. As surveyed by me October 24th and 25th 1894. S. L. Ward, Licensed Surveyor** San Diego County Survey Records System srs.sandiegocounty.gov

In this 1894 map, Samuel Striplin and William Wilhite's land at that time is east of land owned by (Edward?) Davis and Alfred Williams.

This land of Striplin, Wilhite, Davis and Williams was owned by Nathan C. Pedley by the time of the 1912 Plat Book of San Diego County California [4]. To the east of the Striplin and Wilhite property on this map is land which was originally owned by Stephen D. Sutton; Pedley also owned this land by the time of the 1912 Plat Book of San Diego County California [4,5].




**Closer view of Striplin and Wilhite property**

Samuel Striplin sold his Palomar land by March 1910; on March 28, 1910, the Pomona Progress newspaper reported that the buyers were Nathan Chaffin Pedley, Dr. Edward Ernest Henderson (1850 – 1914), Edwin Trumbull Palmer (1854 – 1940) and Frank Herbert Merrill (1859 – 1917) [12]:

> Dr. E. Henderson and son, Ralph, N.C. Pedley and F.H. Merrill have gone to San Diego county, where they have extensive land interests in the apple district. They will be gone nearly a week.

An erroneous San Diego Union item reported on March 29, 1910 [3]:

> E. Henderson has bought a large tract of land near Palomar for ranch purposes. He bought the properties of Samuel Striplin, N.G. Phillips, N.C. Pedley and N.H. Merrill. The consideration is unknown.

The Pomona Daily review published this item on September 8, 1910 [13]:

> Dr. E. Henderson, E.T. Palmer, N.C. Pedley and F.H. Merril, who have bought a tract of land containing 280 acres down near San Diego are now setting 60 acres of the ground to apples. The apples grown in that section are of a fine quality, as has been proved by the samples that the doctor brought into the Review office today. The fruit is juicy and of good color and grew on trees which had not been watered or cultivated for four years. Some of the apples measured five inches around them.

The Pomona Progress reported on December 30, 1910 (the Crackerjack apple mentioned is actually Nickajack) [10]:

> PLANTING APPLE ORCHARD
>
> N.C. Pedley and son, Frank, have returned from Smith mountain, seventy five miles from San Diego, where they have been setting out an extensive apple orchard. They have 280 acres there, located in what is said to be one of the finest apple sections of California. … Samples of Rome Beauties, Newton Pippins and Crackerjacks grown on land adjoining that which they are setting out shows the wonderful possibilities of that section for apple culture. Irrigation is not needed to produce fruit which commands the highest market prices.

**Francis 'Frank' Pedley (September 27, 1890 – June 13, 1968), 1909** [2]

The Los Angeles Times reported on January 9, 1911 [8]:

> TO RAISE BIG CROP OF PIPPINS
>
> Pomona Man to Set Two Hundred and Eighty Acres to the Succulent Fruit of Eden.
>
> POMONA, Jan. 3 – N.C. Pedley of the Consolidated Water Company, and his son, Frank, are home from Smith Mountain, San Diego county, where they have been for some time planting a large apple orchard. They have 280 acres of land there which is excellent for the growth of pippins, the soil requiring no irrigation and the fruit commanding the highest market price. The Pedleys are enthusiastic over the outlook.

The Pomona Morning Times reported on May 23, 1912 [11]:

> ON BUSINESS TRIP
>
> Frank Pedley and Howard Lands departed yesterday on a business trip to the ranch of N.C. Pedley in San Diego county. The ranch is located near the Smith mountains and the young men will put it in condition for the year's crop. The family of N.C. Pedley will make an extended visit to the ranch during the winter months.

In May 1912, the Pomona Progress reported on Dr. Edward Henderson visiting his Palomar ranch, travelling with George L. Travis who recently purchased Clark Cleaver's Palomar property [21]:

> "G.L. TRAVIS, THE APPLE KING" NOW

> It's "G.L. Travis, the apple king" now. Mr. Travis last week became the purchaser of the fine eighty acre apple orchard in Smith mountain, which formerly belonged to Cleaver, the apple king. Mrs. C.E. Rice fell heir to this property, and after due deliberation Mr. and Mrs. Rice deemed it advisable to sell the property. Mr. Travis, the purchaser, will make it his summer home. The orchard is without doubt the finest apple orchard in Smith mountain. The property is located sixteen miles from the well known Warner's ranch, higher up in the mountains, near the 280 acre ranch of Dr. Henderson and N.C. Pedley, of this city. Messrs. Henderson and Pedley also have a very fine ranch which they are now setting out to apples. Last week Dr. Henderson and son Ralph and Mr. Travis made an overland trip with a two-horse wagon, to these ranches. They were two and a half days going, camping out two nights. When they reached the ranch they found thirty inches of snow on the ground. Before they left the snow was melting rapidly, having done no damage to the fruit crop.

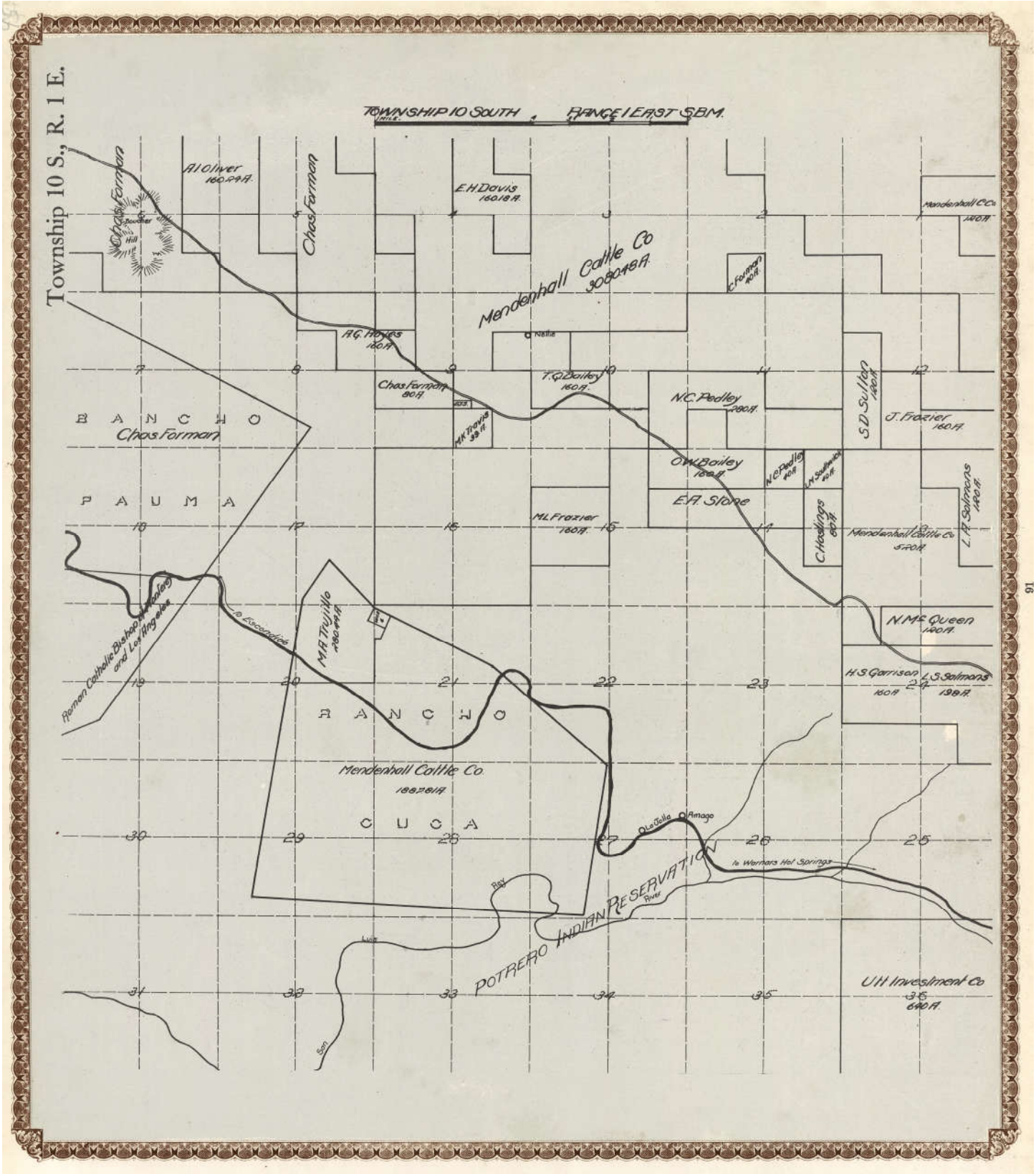
On June 19, 1912, the Pomona Progress noted [25]:

> Off For Smith Mountain.
>
> Howard Loucks and Clinton Pedley left on Tuesday for the Pedley ranch at Smith Mountain in San Diego county. They will drive to their destination, camping by the way. Mrs. Pedley and daughter, Dorothy, went by train and the whole party will spend the summer at the Pedley apple ranch there.

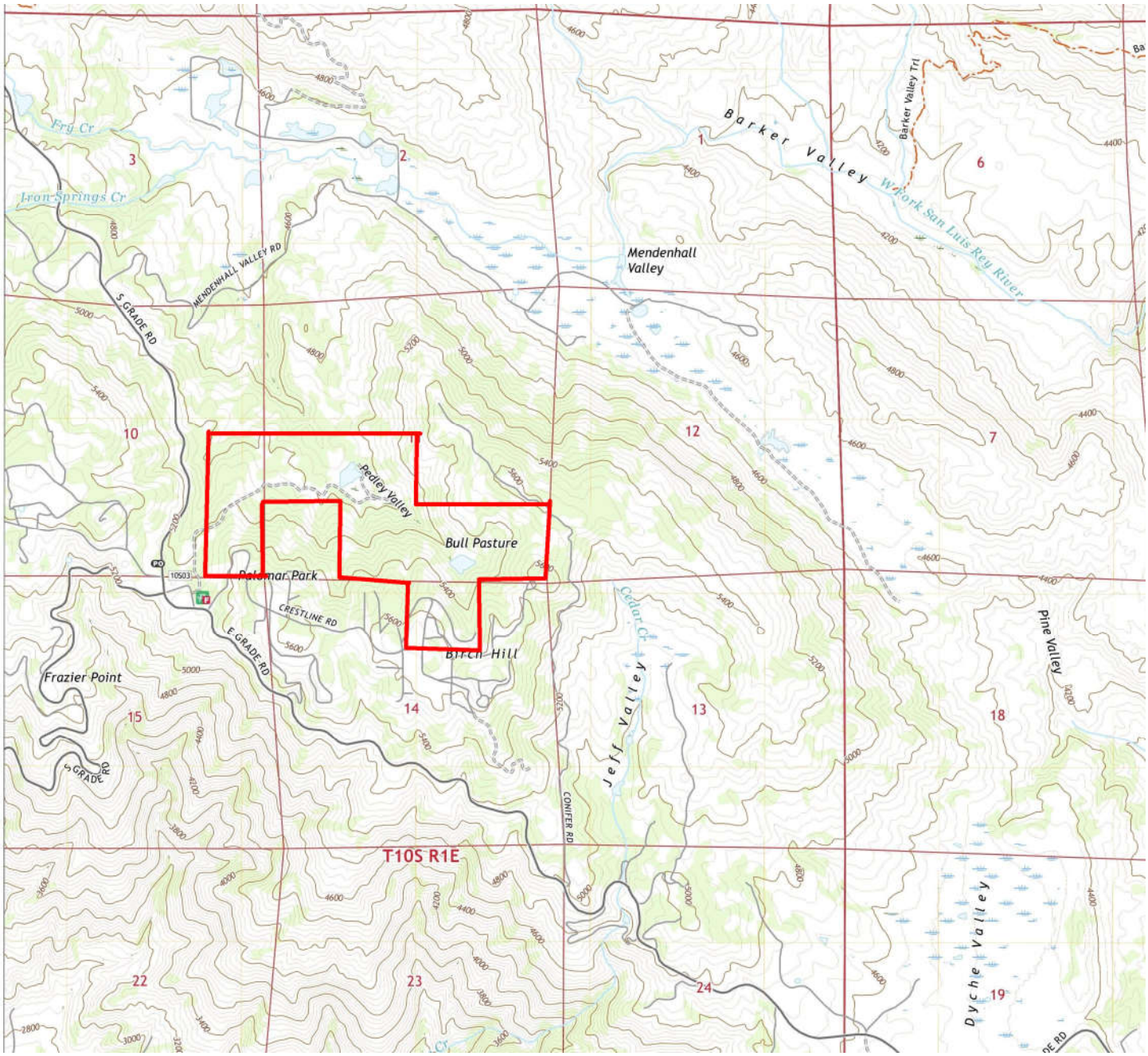
On August 24, 1912, the Pomona Progress noted [24]:

> Mrs. N.C. Pedley and children have returned from their ranch on Smith mountain, San Diego county, where Mr. Pedley has 280 acres of land which he is planting to apples.

The San Diego Union published real estate transfers filed on August 26, 1912, including the transfer of the Palomar property from E. Henderson et al to N.C. Pedley [8]. Nathan C. Pedley is the sole owner listed in the 1912 Plat Book of San Diego County California [4].




**Township 10 South, Range 1 East. Plat Book of San Diego County, California. Los Angeles: Pacific Plat Book Co., 1912** [4]




**Nathan C. Pedley's 1912 land overlaid on the 2021 U.S.G.S. Palomar Observatory map**

In October 1912, Francis "Frank" B. Pedley married Estelle Sadie Bradley of Los Angeles, and their first child Barrett Nathan Pedley was born in September 1913 [23]. More children followed.

Newspapers reported on coming and going of its citizens, which gives an idea of the usage of Pedley Valley by the Pedleys. The Pomona Progress newspaper reported on January 16, 1913 [30]:

> Elmer Pedley and Robert Nesbit left on Wednesday for Smith's mountain, San Diego county, where they will plant 25 acres of El Molino ranch to apple trees. The ranch is owned by N.C. Pedley.

**Elmer Charles Pedley (February 21, 1893 – January 22, 1965)**, undated

This is the first mention in newspapers of the Pedley ranch being named **El Molino** ranch.

The Pomona Progress newspaper reported on February 24, 1913 [29]:

> HOME FROM SMITH MOUNTAIN
>
> Mr. and Mrs. N.C. Pedley have returned from their apple ranch on Smith mountain in San Diego county. They were there during a heavy snow storm but left the mountains before the late storm. There is an abundance of game there and the scenery there is a counterpart of that of the eastern states. Mr. Pedley is planting a large acreage to apples this season.

The Pomona Progress newspaper reported on April 22, 1913, mentioning "young Pedley and wife" which is probably Frank and Estelle Pedley [27]:

> N.C. Pedley and daughter, of North Pomona, returned on Sunday from the Pedley ranch at Smith mountain in San Diego county. Young Pedley and wife accompanied his father in an automobile to the ranch and will remain there while he superintends the planting of an apple orchard.

On July 13, 1913, a note on the campers on Palomar Mountain included "W.S. Pedley and family at the Saw Mill," which is probably N.C. Pedley [26].

The Escondido Daily Times Advocate published on September 17, 1913 [28]:

> W.H. Clark and Miss Mareta Pedley left this afternoon for their home in Pomona after spending a week at the Pedley ranch on Palomar.

On April 18, 1914, the Pomona Progress noted [31]:

> Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pedley and child have gone to Smith Mountain, San Diego county, to spend the summer. They have extensive apple land interests there.

On February 15, 1916, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [32]:

> Mr. Maple, who is looking after the interests of the Pedley Ranch while Mr. Frank Pedley and his family are spending the winter in Pomona, is helping Road Overseer B.H. Elmore repair the county roads.

Mr. Maple's full name is Mac Maple; his parents were Mr. and Mrs. Marion Maple of Pomona [33,34]. B.H. Elmore is Bentley H. Elmore, who was a foreman at a San Diego County road camp.

On April 14, 1916, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [35]:

> Elmer Pedley arrived with wagon and a team of mules on Thursday, having driven from Pomona for a sojourn on the Pedley or El Molino Ranch.

On May 11, 1916, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [36]:

> Frank Sellars of Pomona, arrived on Friday for an extended stay with Elmer Pedley on El Molino Ranch.

On June 15, 1916, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [37]:

> Frank Sellars who has been spending several months with Elmer Pedley on El Molino Ranch, left for Pomona Sunday morning with Mr. Pedley's team of mules and wagon. He expects to meet Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pedley and children at Pomona, when they will take the team and drive back to Palomar for their summer residence here.

On June 16, 1916, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [38]:

> Frank Pedley arrived from Pomona with team and wagon on Sunday. Mr. Cornwall brought Mrs. Pedley and children by auto on Monday returning Tuesday morning accompanied by Elmer Pedley who is a member of

Company D, State Militia of Pomona, which has been called to Mexican border service.

On November 2, 1916, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [39]:

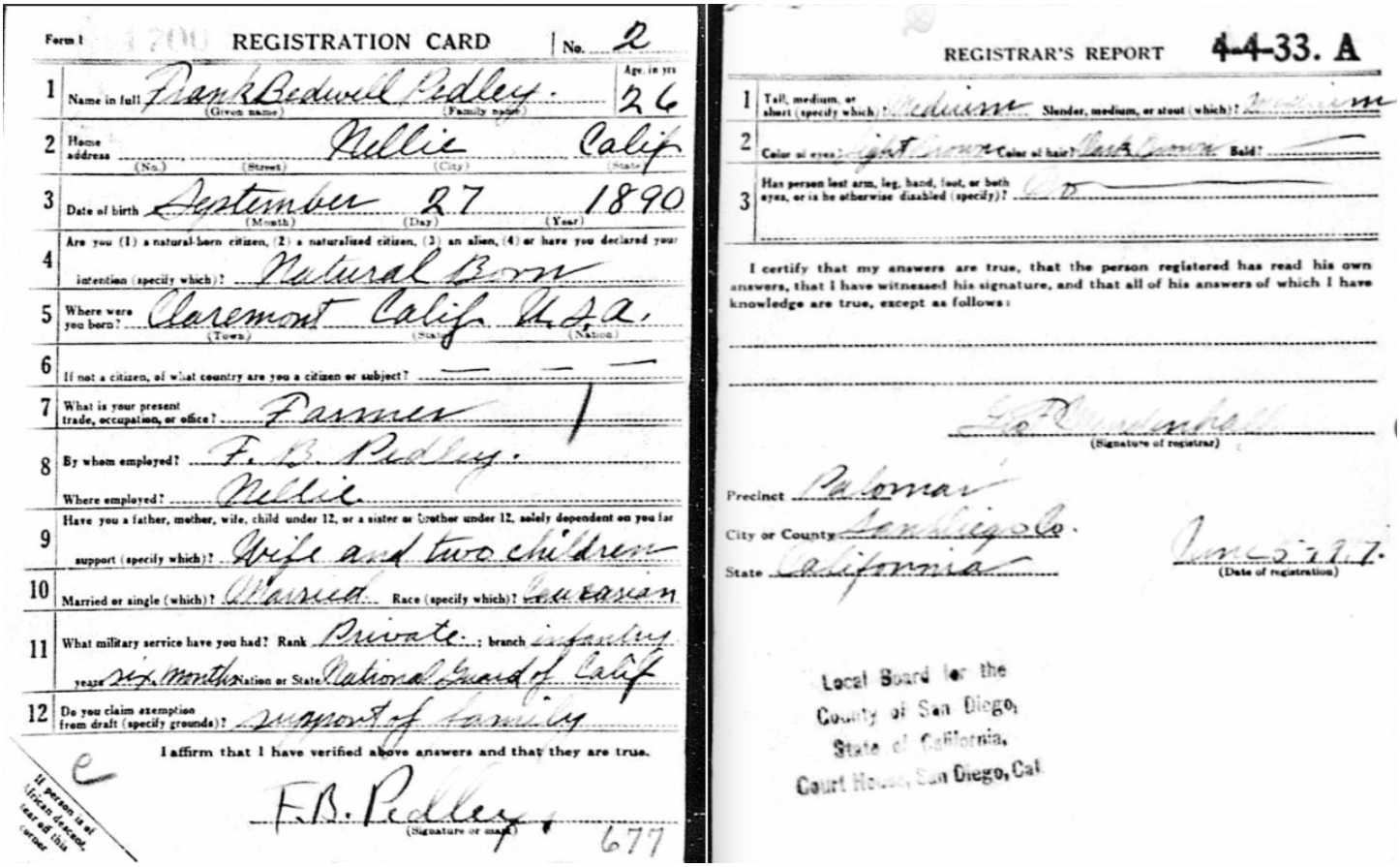
Howard Loucks, of Pomona, an old friend of Mr. and Mrs. Pedley of El Molino ranch arrived on Tuesday for a visit of several weeks.

On December 1, 1916, the Escondido Times Advocate noted [40]:

Mr. and Mrs. N.C. Pedley, who motored from their home in Pomona and spent a week with their son, Frank Pedley and his family at El Molino ranch, left for home Friday afternoon.

On May 23, 1917, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [41]:

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pedley and children arrived on Tuesday from Pomona for their summer residence on El Molino ranch.



Form 1 REGISTRATION CARD No. 2

1 Name in full Frank Bedwell Pedley. (Given name) (Family name) Age in yrs 26
2 Home address (No.) (Street) Nellie (City) Calif (State)
3 Date of birth September (Month) 27 (Day) 1890 (Year)
4 Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? Natural Born
5 Where were you born? Claremont (Town) Calif (State) U.S.A. (Nation)
6 If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject? —
7 What is your present trade, occupation, or office? Farmer
8 By whom employed? F. B. Pedley. Where employed? Nellie
9 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? Wife and two children
10 Married or single (which)? Married Race (specify which)? Caucasian
11 What military service have you had? Rank Private; branch infantry years six months Nation or State National Guard of Calif
12 Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? support of family

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

F.B. Pedley (Signature or mark)

677

If person is of African descent, cross out this corner

REGISTRAR'S REPORT 4-4-33. A

1 Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? Medium Slender, medium, or stout (which)? Medium
2 Color of eyes? Light Brown Color of hair? Dark Brown Bald? —
3 Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)? No

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

(Signature of registrar)

Precinct Palomar
City or County San Diego Co.
State California
June 5 1917. (Date of registration)

Local Board for the County of San Diego, State of California, Court House, San Diego, Cal

**World War 1 draft registration of Frank Bidwell Pedley of Nellie (Palomar Mountain)**

On August 16, 1917, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [42]:

> Frank Pedley returned on Saturday from the Striplin ranch across the river, where he had gone on Thursday with a load of cedar posts. Mr. Pedley hoped to bring back a quantity of fresh fruit, but found the best fruit about all sold out.

On November 21, 1917, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [43]:

> Mr. N.C. Pedley, of Pomona, is expected this week. When he returns Mrs. Frank Pedley and children will accompany him. Frank Pedley plans to visit his brother, Elmore, who is a sergeant in the light artillery drilling at Camp Kearny, after which he too will leave the mountain and join his family in Pomona.

On December 12, 1917, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [44]:

> Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pedley and two children left their mountain home for Pomona on Thursday. Mr. Pedley expects to engage in electrical work with the Edison Electric company.

On June 29, 1918, the Pomona Bulletin noted [45]:

> N.C. Pedley returned yesterday from a short vacation at Nellie, Cal., in the Smith mountains. Mrs. Pedley will remain at their ranch at that place for some time.

On September 19, 1918, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [46]:

> Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pedley and family returned to the Pedley ranch, El Molino, Sunday, September 8. Mr. Pedley has been employed for some months in the San Joaquin valley, there contracting malaria. In the hope of regaining health and strength, he sought his mountain home, but he grew worse instead of better, and his father, N.C. Pedley, of Pomona, was on Saturday called by telephone to come for the family. Mr. Pedley made the trip from Pomona in the record time of four and three-quarter hours, leaving Palomar with his son and family Sunday morning.

On December 19, 1918, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [47]:

> N.C. Pedley and son, Frank Pedley, drove up from Pomona on Saturday to attend to their interests on El Molino ranch, returning on Monday. Frank Pedley, who was compelled by serious illness to leave the ranch very

suddenly last summer, is completely recovered, and enjoying better health than for years past.

On May 27, 1920, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [48]:

> NEW COMPANY TO CUT OAK ON THE HEIGHTS OF PALOMAR
>
> The El Molino Hardwood company is a new concern recently organized, with F.B. Pedley as president, the object of which is to cut oak and other hard timber on Palomar mountain and bring it to Escondido to be worked into lumber, for all purposes to which oak and such hardwoods are usually put. The cutting of timber on Palomar was started Wednesday of this week by the new company's men.

On June 15, 1920, the Escondido Daily Times Advocate noted [49]:

> N.C. Pedley was down from Pomona Monday and Tuesday, looking after this new hardwood milling proposition. With him came his attorney, Judge White, and his friend, Howard Johnson.

**Francis Bidwell "Frank" Pedley**, undated [1]

Francis Bidwell "Frank" Pedley worked for the city of Pomona water department, starting in 1926 and ending as superintendent of water production in 1956 [18,20].

Leona Mendenhall writes [61]:

> In 1921 [Lucius Carlisle 'Carl' Mendenhall, his wife Retha Mae Newlin and family] moved back to Palomar [from Escondido] and lived in the Pedley place. Frank and Stell Pedley had moved to Pomona so their kids could be in school.

Nathan Chaffin Pedley died in 1931. On September 28, 1931, the Pomona Progress Bulletin published his obituary [50}:

> N. C. PEDLEY'S ILLNESS FATAL
>
> Pioneer Pomona Resident, Active in Development Of Water Supply, Dies
>
> Nathan C. Pedley, pioneer Pomona resident and for nearly 40 years identified with the development of water resources in this valley, died Sunday afternoon at the Hollywood hospital following an operation. He had been taken to the hospital on Wednesday, September 16. Since the purchase of the Consolidated Water company by the city of Pomona five years ago he had been employed by the city as field superintendent in charge of production, residing near one of the big reservoirs, at Hiawasse (now La Verne) and Orange Grove avenues. For over 20 years prior to that transfer he had occupied the same position with the Consolidated company. He is believed to have been the first man to develop the flood-control "sponge" near the mouth of the San Antonio canyon in the wash northeast of Claremont, his work on this project having begun fully 30 years ago. He is also credited with the first development and operation of a motor-driven water-pumping equipment in this valley.
>
> He was resident of this city 42 years, having come here in 1889 from Iowa. Born at Wenominee, Wisconsin, May 10, 1862, he was 69 years of age at the time of his death and had been apparently in good health until within a few weeks ago, when a surgical operation became necessary. Mr. Pedley was a member of Trinity Methodist Episcopal church; Pomona lodge, No. 789, B.P.O. Elks; Pomona lodge, No. 107, Knights of Pythias, and the Independent Order of Foresters. He was a charter member of the Pomona Rotary club and one of its most active workers. For 20 years he has a member of Company D, 7th Regiment, California National Guard. He was an honorary member of the United Spanish War Veterans and the American Legion. He was one of the first employees of the Southern California Edison company.
>
> Mr. Pedley's community activities were numerous, one of them being encouragement of floriculture thru his connection with the Pomona City

> Garden club, and one of his favorite pastimes was raising of beautiful flowers. His long residence here, his connections with municipal water development and his genial participation in many local enterprises and organizations have made him well known to hundreds of long-time residents. He is survived by three sons: Frank B. Pedley, 951 Huntington boulevard, Pomona, and Elmer C. and Clinton L. Pedley, both of Carlsbad, Calif.; three daughters, Mrs. Henry B. Jones, Ontario, Mrs. Harry Clark, Claremont, and Mrs. Carroll Palmer, Pomona, and 12 grandchildren. His wife, Carrie Elizabeth Dexter Pedley, died here January 5, 1930. Funeral services will be Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. at the Todd & Reeves chapel. The Elks lodge will have charge of the services, and the Knights of Pythias will have burial service at the grave. Burial will be in Pomona cemetery.

The Pedley family continued using the Pedley property. The Escondido Daily Times-Advocate noted in October 1951 (Mrs. Palmer is Dorothy Harriet Pedley, married to Joseph Carroll Palmer) [51]:

> Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Palmer and son of Pomona are spending their vacation camping in Pedley valley. Mrs. Palmer is a member of the Pedley family.

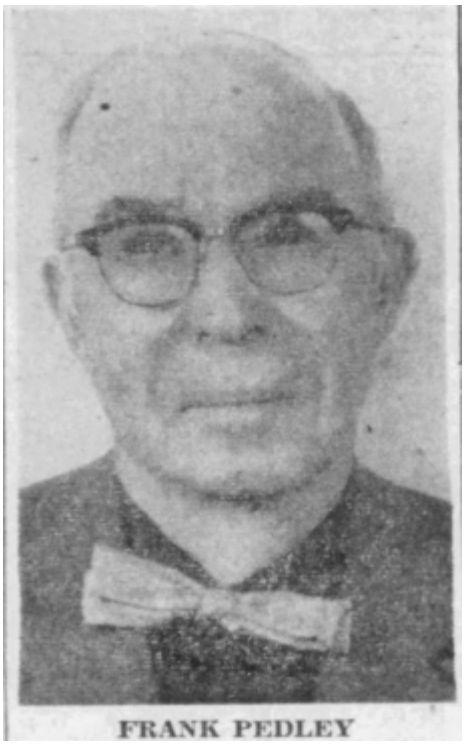
The upper portion of the Pedley land, known as the Old Bull Pasture, was sold by 1954; the Escondido Daily Times-Advocate reported on February 13, 1954 [52,62]:

> Resort Planned for Palomar Mountain
>
> PALOMAR MOUNTAIN -- A new resort is to be opened here this summer in the area known to many as “Pedley’s Upper 40.” A five-acre is planned and swimming, boating and fishing will highlight the private club’s program. The lake will be stocked with bass and blue gill. Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Darby of La Jolla have purchased the site and will start construction of 20 housekeeping cabins the first of March. Their road was completed Sunday, dropping down into the valley from the old road east of Hampton Haven on Camp Sites. The Darbys, who have two children, Martin R. and Robin, plan to make their home on the mountain.

In October 1955, Frank Pedley retired, and the Pomona Progress-Bulletin noted that [53]:

> <u>Cited for Service</u>
>
> Retiring Water Official Honored
>
> Frank Pedley, veteran superintendent of Pomona city water department, and Mrs. Pedley, were honored at the Tuesday afternoon session of the City Council during a brief ceremony in which he was presented with a certificate of service and service pin in recognition of his 29 years with the municipal

water department. Pedley will retire Oct. 31. The presentation was made by Mayor Arthur H. Cox on behalf of the city, and in making it the mayor said he felt that the presentation should be to Mrs. Pedley as well as her husband. Mrs. Pedley pinned the service pin on the lapel of her husband's coat as the mayor extended congratulations on behalf of the city.



FRANK PEDLEY

"I am grateful for the opportunity of living in Pomona and for the many good things that have come to me over the span of years," Pedley said. The mayor, who pointed out that Mr. and Mrs. Pedley will leave the latter part of the week on an extended trip to Europe, mentioned that Pedley really started his career in Pomona's water service at the age of 9. Questioned later as to how he began his career, Pedley said that when he was 9 years old he started up the pumps for his father, N.C. Pedley, who was superintendent of the Consolidated Water Co., later bought by the city. This experience, he said, was with a motor using hydroelectric motive force, first of its kind used for pumping water. When he was 13, 14 and 15 years old, Pedley ran the pumps during the summer vacations. For several summers thereafter he operated the hoisting engine. Then he became a tunnel man, working in tunnels and shafts under direction of Harvey Smith, who was with the company for years.

In the meantime Pedley was continuing his education. He spent five summers on his ranch in the Palomar Mountains, which he still owns. He began to work steadily with the Consolidated company in 1916. He became erecting engineer and subsequently became assistant superintendent. The city bought out Consolidated in 1926. When N.C. Pedley died in 1931 he was superintendent of the city water department. The son then was offered the job "out of a clear sky" and thus he became the superintendent. Uppermost thought of the city government in purchase of the water department was to benefit the water consumers collectively, to deliver the finest water at the lowest cost, Pedley recalled. Pedley was born in Claremont. He was in water service regularly for 37 years, one year longer than the service of his father. He and Mrs. Pedley will leave Friday by train for San Antonio and go from there to Corpus Christi, where they will board ship on the first leg of their trip of approximately a year in Europe. …

The Escondido Daily Times-Advocate reported on October 18, 1956 [Mr. and Mrs. C.L. Pedley are Clinton Leon and Marie Louise Pedley] [54]:

> Spending the weekend in their Pedley Valley house were Mr. and Mrs. C.L. Pedley and part of Carlsbad, and Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Palmer and granddaughter of Pomona.

The Escondido Daily Times-Advocate reported on January 22, 1959 [55]:

> PALOMAR MOUNTAIN – The board of directors of the Palomar Mountain Mutual Water Company of Camp Sites last week exercised its option on the Frank Pedley tract, the shareholders having approved the change in bylaws permitting an increase in the company indebtedness. In the annual meeting last Labor Day, the stockholders approved the purchase of water-bearing land, when the need of greater water supply was presented by the board, due to the great increase in the number of cabins on Camp Sites. The land purchased, a net 37 acres, lies in the bottom of Pedley Valley, starting just above the old Pedley house, includes the apple orchard, and extends 100 feet above the cabin at the end of the road. The board has plans for putting in a dam at the upper end of the tract, and of laying out cabin sites on the wooded slopes on either side of the valley. …

The Escondido Daily Times-Advocate reported on April 1, 1959 [57]:

> The Camp Sites Water Company made a start last week on clearing its newly-purchased land in Pedley Valley, preparatory to the construction of a dam.

The Escondido Daily Times-Advocate reported on July 29, 1959 [Mr. and Mrs. H.P. Bowden are Harold P. and Jennette C. Bowden] [56]:

> Mr. and Mrs. H.P. Bowden entertained at luncheon Saturday noon at their Camp Sites cottage the executive board of the Congregational Conference. The board tentatively approved the purchase of Pedley Valley property from the Water Company for recreation. The Congregational Conference represents all of Southern California and much of the Southwest, including Arizona, New Mexico and part of Nevada and Texas.

The Escondido Daily Times-Advocate reported on December 4, 1959 [58]:

> Paul Bowden has been staying on the mountain until the dam in Pedley Valley is completed. The Palomar Water Company expects the dam to be completed this week.

The Escondido Daily Times-Advocate reported on March 20, 1974 (Genevieve Tebo Pedley, July 16, 1897 -- December 1979) [59]:

> Gift of land will increase size of park
>
> Palomar County Park soon will be increased in size because of a donation by Mrs. Genevieve Pedley, a former Carlsbad resident who now lives in Arizona. Mrs. Pedley donated two acres of land located at the northwest corner of the park. This land is to remain in its present unimproved condition. Mrs. Pedley's donation was made as a memorial to her husband, Elmer, and will be designated as the Elmer Pedley Area of Palomar County Park. Pedley was known for developing the Bird of Paradise flower. …

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